

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the status of the claims, as presented in the "*Literal English Translation of Article 19 Amendments for P.C.T. Application No. PCT/CH2004/000167*," filed October 20, 2004, as indicated below:

Claims 1-8 (canceled)

9. (new) A flat and low pourer-closure for composite packs or container openings closable with a thick foil, comprising:

a bottom part having a base plate fixable onto a composite pack or thick foil, said base plate having a drain opening and an upwardly jutting projection surrounding said base plate on an outer side;

a hinged cover swivelable toward said bottom part for swiveling upwardly and tightly swiveling downwardly onto said bottom part, said hinged cover having a downwardly projecting collar running around a bottom side of said hinged cover and corresponding with said upwardly jutting projection of said bottom part;

a break-off plate in said drain opening of said base plate with said break-off plate having an outer edge connected to an inner edge of said drain opening through material bridges as breaking points, so that a bottom side of said break-off plate runs flush with a bottom side of said base plate, said break-off plate having a recess, wherein at an

edge position, a tongue is formed for allowing said break-off plate to be torn off by breaking said material bridges from said drain opening of said base plate after upwardly swiveling said hinged cover.

10. (new) The flat and low pourer-closure for composite packs or container openings closable with a thick foil according to Claim 9, wherein said tongue of said break-off plate includes supporting ribs at a lengthwise side of said tongue for holding said tongue in a slanted-up position in said drain opening of said base plate.

11. (new) The flat and low pourer-closure for composite packs or container openings closable with a thick foil according to Claim 9, further comprising a first bead and a second bead with said first bead formed along a length of an outer side of said downwardly projecting collar on said bottom said of said hinged cover, said first bead being capable of being clicked-in behind said second bead when said hinged cover is downwardly swiveled, said second bead being formed along a length of an inner side of said upwardly jutting on said bottom part.

12. (new) The flat and low pourer-closure for composite packs or container openings closable with a thick foil according to Claim 9, wherein said hinged cover has a hinge with two hinge levers and an open space between said two hinge levers with a tooth having a sharp edge, located within

the open space, formed at a back edge of said cover, said tooth projecting and, while said cover swivels downwardly for closing, striking an extension projecting into the open space wherein, during an elastic deformation of said tooth, said sharp edge of said tooth is passable over said extension.

13. (new) The flat and low pourer-closure for composite packs or container openings closable with a thick foil according to Claim 9, wherein said hinged cover is a continuous cover plate having a holding strip at a front end of said hinged cover, said holding strip projecting downwardly is two-thirds to three-quarters in length as a height of said upwardly jutting projection of said bottom part.

14. (new) The flat and low pourer-closure for composite packs or container openings closable with a thick foil according to Claim 9, wherein said bottom part and said bottom side of said break-off plate have welding ridges for fixing, via welding, a thick foil or a composite pack with which said flat and low pourer-closure is to be fitted.

15. (new) The flat and low pourer-closure for composite packs or container openings closable with a thick foil according to Claim 9, wherein said upwardly jutting projection of said bottom part forms a pourer lip at a front end of said bottom part with said pourer lip having a sharp break-off edge.

REMARKS

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please enter the foregoing amendments.

Claims 9-15 are now pending in the above-identified patent application, as presented by the instant Preliminary Amendment. All prior (original) claims have been cancelled. Claim 9 is the single claim presented in independent form.

The present application represents the U.S. National Phase of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/CH2004/000167, filed March 19, 2004, and claiming foreign priority on the basis of corresponding Switzerland patent application filed March 26, 2003.

By the present amendment, prior Claims 1-8 have been cancelled and substituted by new Claims 9-15, which have been drafted in conformance with U.S. claim practice.

The Specification has been amended to include standard U.S. sectional headings.

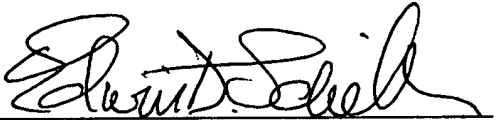
A substitute Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate sheet of paper, as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b), is also enclosed.

The application is now in condition for a full examination on the merits.

Accordingly, an early examination on the merits and allowance are, therefore, respectfully requested and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enc.: Abstract of the Disclosure